

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.**

Claims 15 and 31 recite features that are similar to the features recited in claim 1. Thus, claims 15 and 31, along with their respective dependent claims, are likewise believed to patentably distinguish over Sasamoto and over Sasamoto in view of Mathews for at least the reasons given above.

### **CONCLUSION**

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

No fees are believed necessary; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505\5681-81600\BNK.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen J. Curran  
Reg. No. 50,664  
AGENT FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C.  
P.O. Box 398  
Austin, Texas 78767-0398  
Phone: (512) 853-8800  
Date: October 25, 2004